

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— I maintain it is a correct figure.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— The question was whether they have collected any information.

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— The last census showed that there were 1074 beggars. Since then we have not collected any further information.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval:— Will the Government consider the advisability of having legislation to prevent begging in the open streets and thoroughfares?

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— The Government can consider the advisability.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— What is the exact information that the Government intended in this sentence that the "Government have not collected the information."

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— The information that was wanted by the Hon'ble Member was the number of beggars. It was pointed out that there were 1074 beggars. Since then it was not possible to collect the information.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— What is the length of notice you had?

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— I have not calculated the number of days.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Has the Economic Survey to bring any information with regard to this?

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— It might.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Is it one of the terms of references?

Mr. K. Adiyuta Menon:— I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim:— Can I get the information from the Hon'ble Secretary?

Rama Varmha Tampuran:— I have not got the file with me now. There are about a hundred items on which the officer has been asked to collect information. I do not remember whether this is one.

Nomination of a Muslim Member in the Vellattinjur Panchayat.

162. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan:— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) Whether there were not representations made

regarding the nomination of a Muslim member to the Vellattanjur Panchayat ;

(b) Whether there is not an appreciable number of Muslim inhabitants in the Panchayat area ;

(c) Whether there was any Muslim nominated to this Panchayat ever since its formation ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— May I know what approximately is the number of Muslim inhabitants in the area ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— About 1000.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— How does it compare with the number of other communities like Christians and Nayars ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— Christians are about 1500 and the Nayars 3000.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— May I know the principle followed in regard to nomination of members to Panchayats ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— Subject to considerations of efficiency we give preference to unrepresented communities.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval :— Has the Government received any petition from any Muslim of that village requesting that a capable Muslim may be nominated as a member of the Panchayat.

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— Yes.

Mr. A. Sankara Poduval :— Is it engaging the attention of the Government ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— Government considered it and it was found that there was no Muslim candidate who would approach anywhere near the members who were nominated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— What are the requisite qualifications for nominating a Muslim member to the Panchayat ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— The Hon'ble the questioning Member happens to be a Panchayat member and also a Panchayat President. General respectability, solvency and general efficiency are the main considerations.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Are these qualifications satisfied in all the Muslim nominations that have been made by the Government ?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— In every one of the nominations suggested or recommended and approved by the Government, these qualifications have been generally satisfied.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— What was the nature of the representations made with regard to the nomination of the Muslim candidate asked for in sub-section (1)?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— They pointed out the names of three candidates for nomination requesting the Government to nominate any one of the three. On enquiry it was found that none of the three would approach anywhere near the members who were nominated.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Did the Government look out for anybody else who would satisfy these conditions from among the Muslims themselves?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— There was a public petition and a public enquiry was made in this matter and we could not find any one who would equal the candidates nominated.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Is it the position of the Government that there was no one in the place from among the Muslim community who could be nominated?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— I submitted that there was no one to approach the candidates we have nominated.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Was there not any one with the minimum qualifications?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— There is no such thing as minimum qualification or maximum qualification. A gentleman with efficiency and respectability and possessing fairly good property is generally selected. I could not find, in spite of diligent and honest endeavour, any one possessing such qualifications.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Is the principle of representation to unrepresented communities kept up?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— It is invariably and universally kept up.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Was there not a single man from this large number who could be nominated as a Panchayat member?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— There were other communities which are considered to be equally unrepresented.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Is it not a principle of communal representation where a man with sufficient minimum qualifications compete with another from an over-represented community with maximum qualifications, to give preference to the man with the minimum qualifications?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— The other two candidates also happen to be from unrepresented communities.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim :— Is it not your point that you prefer a comparatively larger Christian community to a microscopically minority community of Mohammedans?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— It is not a microscopically minority community there.

Mr. K. Ayyappan :— Were there any elected Christian members?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— No.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— May I know whether the Government have any information about the age of this Panchayat?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— About 10 years.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— During these ten years was any attempt made at least to give one nomination for this community?

Mr. P. V. Raphael :— During these ten years we could not find a single one who was competent to become a member.

Batta of Process Servers of Civil Courts.

103. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) Whether it has done anything subsequent to the last Budget Session to renew the batta or T. A. formerly allowed to process servers of Civil Courts ;

(b) At what stage is the matter at present ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran :— (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under correspondence with the Judges of the Chief Court.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Am I to take it that the matter is in correspondence with the Judges of the Chief Court?

Rama Varmha Tampuran :— We have addressed a letter to the Registrar of the Chief Court.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Is there no information from the Chief Court?

Rama Varmha Tampuran :— Not yet.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan :— Had any reference been made to the Comptroller of Accounts?

Rama Varmha Tampuran :— A reference was made to the Comptroller of Accounts and after receiving his report a